

# Ron Paul - Non-Interventionism: America's Founding Foreign Policy

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This speech was presented at a conference entitled "Non-interventionism: America's Founding Foreign Policy" in Charleston, South Carolina on April 29, 2018. The event was co-sponsored by The Ron Paul Institute for Peace & Prosperity and The Future of Freedom Foundation.

Our country is enmeshed in permanent, ongoing foreign wars and interventions. The results of foreign interventionism have been catastrophic, not only in terms of massive death and destruction abroad, but also in terms of ongoing, ever-growing destruction of liberty, privacy, and prosperity here at home.

It is time for America to do some serious soul-searching. The best place to begin is by examining first principles — especially the founding principle of non-interventionism on which our nation was founded and which remained its guiding principle for more than a century.

There are few forces in the universe more powerful than ideas on liberty. They have the potential to sweep across a nation and bring monumental paradigm shifts in society. That's what we aim to do with the idea of non-interventionism. It is an idea whose time has come, again. It is the paradigm that will help restore liberty, peace, prosperity, privacy, and harmony to our land.

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you know I've got the greatest job in the world I get up at around 6:00 6:30 in the morning I usually have an email from dr. Paul because we're both scouring the news pretty early because we got to figure out what we're gonna do that day we want to put something in the news we want to be able to explain it in our own way we'll get together I guess around 9:30 10 o'clock at the studio we'll start hashing it out he'll have several sheets of paper all have a couple of piece sheets of paper comparing notes putting things together trying to figure out what we're gonna say how we're going to talk about the news and I'll tell you honestly from the bottom of my heart it's it's such great fun at such hard work I have such an admiration and it's such a joy to work with the next person who'll be speaking to you dr. Ron Paul thank you thank you very much nice to be among friends let me tell you see I didn't get any applause him when I was in Washington so I'm loving it now but mark still fighting the battle up there for so mark and thank you for your nice words and bumper I have to bumper that's Jake I guess people know him by both Jacob you need congratulating for the future of freedoms foundation great work you've done and we worked with you for a long time you know the other person that doesn't get as much credit and it's partially his fault because he went and took an institute and named it after somebody other themselves and that's Daniel McAdams he's the one that does all the work keeping our programs going [Applause]

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but it is a real pleasure to be here or in Si important subject most people know that I talk a lot about economics and I'll probably end up talking about economics today but when I first got interested in economic policy it happened really into the 60s and I said I came across the Austrian economic economists and they were making some predictions and they were claiming that this Bretton Woods Agreement was bad news it

was kind of fall apart and that sort of thing and obviously it did and I consider except August 21st and 1971 is a big event when the system went from a pseudo gold standard to as no gold standard and a fiat standard which we're living with today but as time went on and the more I thought about politics and economics it finally dawned on me that there's a very close connection between the two because you know you have to pay for everything you have to pay for all this foreign intervention and how do they do it how do we get American people to work so hard to pay for all he's worth well guess what they don't it's a game of fraud they captured the world reserve currency they had license to steal by putting money and and then license to go and and get involved when they shouldn't shouldn't be involved well how how if people don't want to donate the money just thank you at the end of the month every American citizen would have to write a check to cover all the deficit the whole thing within immediately so it's the gimmicks that go on and the seductiveness of the monetary system that allows this runaway welfare system to work and also our empire you know around the world so how has it how does it get ended people ask me how's it going to end are we gonna get more people to help mark up there to get and pass these bills I don't think so we should get as many as we can to try to put things together when it's

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try to put things together when it's necessary but where it's not going to happen there's too many people dependent it's an addiction I mean we're treating and we're going to opioid addiction you want to really know about an addiction it's the addiction of the American people to the US Congress spending money and they're addicted to deficit that's the addiction that we have to attack [Applause] well how did we finally get rid of that war in Vietnam that is vivid in my mind even though the Korean War has been vivid - back in the days and there's interesting things happening there but Vietnam in the 60s was an interesting decade it was the period of time that I was drafted and put into the military yeah and it was a disaster I mean you think we have problems now sometimes when people get despondent I think well I think it's depression yeah I was born in the depression think of world war two bad time think about the stupidity in Korea bad news think of Vietnam 60,000 people died Americans American military died so in the 68 we elected a Republican to end war and he was elected 30 more thousand Americans died in American people are just desperate and screaming out you know for at the end well finally they weren't screaming enough is there what the problem was finally in the sixties the people got fed up and they started demonstrating in this country and the war ended and they did what nobody wanted us to do and Johnson the reason he kept sending thousands of young men and women over there to be killed for no good reason he says I'm not going to be the president during the first war that we're gonna lose well he was he told a total loss and in India and what happened you know the result of that was that Vietnam instead of the domino effect go in totally communist in due time they

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totally communist in due time they became more westernized than the country that we left in the in a division Korea and they're still hopefully some Goods going to come out soon but they left divided but Vietnam unified and just think of how much more was won in peace than in war why doesn't that wake the American people up [Applause] but the connection between the war and the financial system is very very clear in my mind because you know world war two they said was fought by us as kids going around and collecting up quarters to get war bonds is totally gimmickry that was a very very small fraction that was just to discipline people to join the war effort so the real way they paid for World War two is inflation they printed a ton of money and they were able to get away with it so if the people aren't alert to the spending and even when they try the Congress is not alert how does it get done what will not be done unless we do something with that organization called the Federal Reserve I have one suggestion that we do that I do about that just get rid of the Federal Reserve and then we wouldn't have to worry that financing you know the Federal Reserve is a taxing authority really is what it is because it's indirectly attack taxing people and it's a totally immoral fraudulent system because the people who pay the tax are invisible it's the people who get as long with inflationary pressures and it always happens that some groups suffer more than others fixed income people DL derly and poor people they get they get

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derly and poor people they get they get to higher in inflation rate so they tax the money they subsidize the military-industrial complex and anybody who wants to make a buck off the war and they get you know benefits from it at the same time the payments are from from the average class middle class Mises as early as 1912 said that you know that socialism socialism doesn't work and turns out he was right it's too bad that more people don't recognize that but he he also said the if you continue to do that and debase the currency and he certainly had studied monetary history like nobody else he says what you will do is wipe out the middle class and that is what's happening right now the middle class is in shambles and there's a lot of social anger as as interesting and serious as our interventionist foreign policy is and as bad as the spending for the social welfare program and that's all a part of the big system that that comes together but the real threat I believe is the social conflicts of the male distribution of wealth the rich getting richer and the poor getting poorer and guess what they're getting away with that with the result of the cultural Marxist of Marxist and and the people you know in the deep state the propagandists and the war mongers is they're saying too much freedom too much free market too much capitalism it's capitalism that's caused this problem and we have a up-and-coming generation now that if you look at the professors in our colleges not good news fortunately though since I go to campuses and talk to a lot of young people and there are some young people here that it is not a monolith there are young people there are people from yal in this conference here and yal is infiltrating and convincing people and besides it's not a numbers game it's an

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besides it's not a numbers game it's an ideological game and and the ideas of Liberty are alive and well and that's why I think that we have a chance except when you look at the news and you look at you don't have much choice on television I think you know maybe that's the reason we get a few customers on our Liberty report but no the the the people the people can trust because there is not too sensitive of televisions there are not to political parties anybody who thinks oh boy I'm a Republican I'm a Republican because there are the conservatives it's a joke and what about what about yeah we had Republicans in during the during the 80s and that was not a very successful year for conservatives and if you look at so far right now it the deficits going up faster than any Democratic administration ever so the spending goes on and but but there's only two groups that you have to deal with for the spending if you can handle that and we have solved our problem it's the Conservatives and the Liberals and they just have different reasons they want to spend the money and they're authoritarians is what is the problem now somebody told me once Ronnie they said you know why you didn't win the nomination to be you know to running in the campaign for president I said we are sort of know I'm a pretty good idea what's it what's it what's behind the scene they say no you are way too negative I didn't think I was native they say well what did you tell me you for something or against something well it's true I was against something I was against I was against the government and I promised that iist I as a president don't want to tell you what to do with your personal life I

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what to do with your personal life I won't leave you alone i as president I don't want to tell the economy how to run it should be a free market economy and private private property and I don't want to tell anybody around the world how they ought to live and get involved in internal affairs okay if you call that being native you can but I call that Liberty but the big question is where do we stand mark talked a little bit about what to expect he's absolutely right there's there's a danger ahead even though I alluded in fact they were bad times before more war more killing and depressions all these things I think they even know where we have an absence of that in the news every day I would say that in comparison I think we face greater danger structurally you know because when this when this comes unglued it's going to be much more destructive because it's our institutions basically you know survive you know the depression and survived World War two you know it was pre old-fashioned back down we actually asked the people through the Congress to declare war remember that's that's a major thing now that doesn't exist it doesn't exist there's a few in Congress that will fight this and say you have no right to do this you shouldn't be doing it and and and and people are

realizing that there's something desperately wrong but it continues they continues but one of the big things that should be changed is how we go to war and I would say that it's not a complicated factor just obey the Constitution you know know if nothing else you know it was a thing going on a debate and no yet International Affairs Committee that was on leading up to the Iraq war and I was a you know pretty much involved in that that way that was an issue that I could just smell because the first speech I

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just smell because the first speech I gave against the coming war in Iraq was in nineteen in 1998 so there was a railroad job at the they were going to go through and give authority and even though which says I don't need to Authority I kind of do this just under presidential power but I'm going to let you do this so you can he can and do this so when the amendment came up and I was in the committee I introduced an amendment for a substitute and I said this is a this is a amendment and it's going to be declaring war against Saddam Hussein and I said I'm not gonna vote for this but I'm gonna have you look for it because you're starting a war and you don't want to vote for it and they knew they nearly got hysterical you know about me forcing him to vote up or down and the chairman of the committee at that time really lectured me and I really looked down he's seeing Congressman Paul doe don't you know that that part of the Constitution is anachronistic we don't follow that part anymore and he was considered you know a champion of the Constitution had been chairman of the Judiciary Committee and the whole work but then he spoke what was true they don't look at it anymore they don't look at the monetary issue nor where they get the authority to control all your medical care and all the education in this system so it is it's that attitude in vices authoritarianism but the foreign policy is obviously very very dangerous and it should be a place where we could find an opening and so far I haven't quite found it except for a few progressive Democrats and some of our libertarian friends and there is that if if you wanted to work your way through this you have to find a way to cut spending you know but nobody wants to give up on I said all right let's not start with child halt health care even though technically it's not Constitution we don't want to attack that which some

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we don't want to attack that which some conservatives will they attack some social program but if you suggest in a conservative audience or conservative TV or a little TV well I think what we ought to do is cut something out of the military and they they go nuts you know I mean this would be horrible and they don't yet but they all never use a military spending that's not what they say they say you want to cut you want to cut defense defense spending and I said what I'm not I'm a cutting military spending because what you're doing is destroying the defense of the country you're jeopardizing our and quite frankly as bad as a foreign policy is and the consequence of 9/11 the greatest danger has been the attack on our Leary's here at home and here we're telling all the people how to live you know they was discouraging things I have some things that are encouraging but one that really discouraging thing is to fly on their planes anybody else get discouraged when you go through tsa you know if I tell you what I would do a lot more traveling a lot more speaking I and be more available for a lot more people if I didn't have to go through TSA it's terrible and why we put up with that with the groping and the nonsense in violation I don't know why because it hasn't done one bit of good and it's all a gimmick you know to make a subservient to the state and that hasn't prevented one thing and yet we just keep marching in and I put myself in that category and we did at one time I had a bad episode with that I did a little program on our Liberty report and I said this is what I think we ought to do that we are to demand that our president fly coach and go through the groping life and things were changed he didn't call me up and

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were changed he didn't call me up and say Ron has a good idea I think I'm gonna go and do that no not likely but you know it really boils down to what people think and understand what Liberty is all about you know people get off all mixed up about it because Liberty to some people is to have free health care and free food stamps them and police the world and make sure the good guys win because we are in a Mary we are

an exceptional nation we have to spread our Americanism and we have this moral obligation since the Soviets are out of the picture we have to do this because this is our responsibility but that's just the excuse and that is whether problem is they want to play on the sympathies of the American people so that they continue to go along with it but more and more people are getting pretty upset one of the most encouraging signs right now is that I've seen one pole this is why I want to listen to Italy 68% of the American people don't believe a thing the government tells them that's progress no there's there's no reason that we that we should you shouldn't you should really be skeptical about all economic reports now there they're talking about well maybe inflation is about three percent or so if they're admitting it might be three that means it's five or six and if you go to shadow stats it's it's a lot more than that so it's a they they don't level with this aid and and there's a purpose for this and that is to justify what they're doing one of the most silly things I've ever heard of in economic somebody that's a pro Reserve participates in because all the pressure that is is going on and they pumping up all that money trillions of dollars of money and the economy is not responding they can't figure out and they have decided it's because prices aren't going up fast enough if we can make prices go

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up fast enough if we can make prices go up faster then everything is going to be okay and so they they set the goal at 2% which means they want to take two percent of your money every year automatically and which is again you know a tax and the dad's has been the goal for a long time it was already 3% anyway so right now I see what's happening is from all this funding if the foreign policy as well as funding the welfare state is that the price inflation and I talk I like to talk about monetary place and prices are going up at a much faster rate and the economy and in spite of the euphoria that you get on some of the reports and Wall Street I think the economy is a lot worse shape because of the best measurement of what is happening is the measurement of debt financial obligation unfunded liabilities it's just I mean it's so big it's in the trillions and trillions of dollars and productivity really hasn't improved I'm the amount of money that we printed and amount of GDP has gone up the GDP Epis are gone I'm only a small fraction of all the money we created and that money eventually gets circulating and once again the people are going to suffer from all this welfarism and all this stuff and it's going to hit the middle class the people who supported the by financial spending you know but the the productivity will never keep up with the demands the biggest threat of course will be getting into trouble and overseas and the more loss of liberties just think of how under wartime conditions you know they suspend the civil liberties they did it all the way back in the Civil War period another word a lot of times they'll and World War one was terrible protection of civil liberties but most of it was reversed afterwards the one thing about the perpetual war on the global war on terrorism there's no suspension of war you know it just goes on and on they tried to curtail this after the Vietnam

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tried to curtail this after the Vietnam War with a War Powers Resolution in 1973 so they paint system to Congress to make sure that the people had a say in this thing you know not let a president do what they have done to go to war without really permission of the Congress well yeah it made it worse it made it easier to go to war what it did it legalized war for 90 days and then if you suggest oh the troops are in danger you mean you ain't cut you'd cut some of the spending when the troops are in danger how does how do you do it and I said it's simple just bring the troops home do it but unfortunately people are bent on you know being involved in and they get convinced that we are great nation in many ways I look for the greatness of this country and and we had been but we're not we're not nearly as great as a lot of people think we are because we're we're not leading in a proper manner we're not leaving in a moral sway or sound money or a sensible foreign policy the founders tried to give us advice of that stay out of entangling alliances overseas well you know what that would mean if we did we wouldn't have to get out of the United Nations and I think NATO does no good for us Robert Taft argued after the war not to get in a NATO he says it will just invite us to get involved in issues that we shouldn't be involved and sometimes we in the early years we'd get involved because NATO wanted us to now we own NATO and we hit NATO to rubber-stamp what we want to do and then we if they don't do exactly what we want to say we're gonna send you a bill you're gonna have to pay for it but they do we're in so many places it's NATO that's stirring up the trouble in Eastern



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stirring up the trouble in Eastern Europe the NATO in Ukraine NATO and our governments and the briefs are all participate in these coos you know they're worrying about collusion I don't like collusion anybody clues I think we ought to find out who they are and expose them but the amount of collusion that went along with this last election it is absolutely miniscule compared to what we have done as a country over the last 50 years our CIA has murdered more people and orchestrated overthrows of government the worst coming from a person like like Eisenhower starting off in 1953 you know with Iran that's still going on but so far most Americans would have no idea about that most American people when it comes to to Iran would be with Bill Bill O'Reilly one time I had a little skirmish with Bill O'Reilly maybe I won that I don't know eventually no he he wasn't we were into this and he was a hog and wanted to do this and this and this I said don't you know that you know 1953 trying to explain to them I don't want to hear anything about history well that's not too hard for a lot of American people because in our public schools they're not getting very much about history and that is part of the problem that's why I happen to have a home schooling program hopefully that people will find out what the real story is about but there is every reason reason to look on some posit side first thing the whole things coming down either well that's terrible isn't it NOAA gives you an opportunity if it won't be repair and you can't convert people it will come down you have a chance to rebuild it maybe when the monetary system fails maybe we'll come to our senses monetary systems have failed for thousands of years because of the same reason they abuse it in the old

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the same reason they abuse it in the old days it would be clipping coins and inflating and printing money and now it's just using a computer but but it fails and to restore soundness to that inevitably they've gone to something of substance something that is tangible they go back to gold we did it ourselves in 1975 Lincoln totally took us off the gold standard put us on the greenback standard and by 1975 the consensus rose with the American people we won gold in our money so they passed the resumption act and and a three-year period of transition the price of gold went back to \$20 an ounce it was a non-event but we weren't fighting foreign wars we didn't have a welfare state and the people still believed the government wouldn't have run up these huge death see we can't do that now because the deficits are going to continue and that's why I've worked hard on trying to solve this problem in curtailed government is to offer the chance of legal chance for competing currencies to get out of the system I want people to be able to get out of the educational system until we clean up the whole things that you can have privateer homeschooling I want people to get out of the medical system and not have any man days and I believe Rand Paul has helped us on that and getting rid of the mandate and let have choice legalize competition in in currencies and this obviously has opened if we had that this has opened up the door that some creative people believe there's you know you know you know blockchain technology you can use in crypto currencies which I think still has time to decide you know how success will be or wonder but it needs to be I say legalize it let it happen let it be open let it be volunteering no fraud that's what the problem has been with the government so people people who people

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government so people people who people cause you know creates fraud so if they're in government they're fraudulent and they do it in the name of government but people outside of government commit a lot of fraud too so it is difficult but I think that's why the 6,000 years of history something tangible you know you want reassurance that there's no fraud going on is that you're able able to convert but I believe that you know the gold standard restrains big government there was one trip that I had I was on the gold Commission in the early 80s and Ronald Reagan was president and we were on our way to Houston and we were going to fly out to Andrews and I was with our delegation but I was next door to the White House and the White House invited me to fly on the helicopters they knew I was at the gold Commission flight from the White House out to Andrews Air Base and it was really I'd met Reagan a good many times but never really had a much of a conversation but that flight it was a one-on-one and he had knew he had known I was coming from from the gold Commission and two things I remember in our conversation as we pulled out flying out of from the White

House we looking down and he looked down there he says you know isn't that beautiful all the monuments a isn't it amazing how many horrible things come out of this country in such a beautiful place but the other thing he said the other thing he said was you know he knew oh he knew my position on gold salmon he says any great nation that has gone off the gold standard never remains great so he may have been perceptive on that but it's not that we went off the gold standard the whole world has gone off the gold standard and well we're facing we're facing these international crises but we're facing a bubble that has never existed in the history of the world everything is a bubble never has a reserve currency a paper recurrency paper currency been so involved in a global economy

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involved in a global economy so there'll there's not a lot of bubbles there's just one very very big bubble and the plain truth is is that debt has to be liquidated and the debt is too big it'll never be paid down and that's why the Fed works very hard at liquidating debt through inflation devalue the dollar if you can get rid of seventy five percent of the value of the dollar from today on you get rid of seventy five percent of your of your debt so the dollar the debt will be liquidated but I don't I don't think for a minute that all of a sudden we're going to have enough people in Congress to vote to cut enough spending where we actually pay down the debt is no way the the numbers aren't there people are retiring more numbers before less people the Millennials right now don't have tremendous opportunities it is stated now that the Millennials who have have a student debt are now in negative financial territory they have no wealth at all and that those numbers are very very serious so that is the reason when you look at those numbers to me they look lot more serious than some of the worries that we had back when you know the wars were going on and but because the system is is being undermined but I don't think I said I don't think it's that difficult to take care I got to watch my watch here see where I am I can't read the watch here huh so no I think we we have these opportunities that we need to know what we believe in we need to know that we believe in Liberty and we have to not be despondent about it because I think I really believe our numbers are growing I think there's a better understanding on monetary policy and the need for non intervention in spite of the difficulty in figuring out exactly what our foreign policy is when the right things are said is good you know and we cling to those

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is good you know and we cling to those things that right now I think it's I think it's exciting I've complain about Korea for a long long time as what's why do we have troops there they were put in there when I was in high school it's time to come home look at the money we're spending and it looks like maybe there's a slight door opening there and we should be cheered the truth is though we have prevented that for so long we would not ever encourage South Korea to talk to the North Koreans and that says that has been a major problem and and now and now they're now they are I thought that was great but I don't think I don't think that's the end of it yet there's gonna nose neo-cons they don't give up easily and we have to remember that and we also have to remember that philosophically our real challenge is going to be with the cultural Marxist who like chaos whether its economic or social chaos and they'll tack there and they'll attack their own people just to cause chaos and believe me it's not hard for them to do that because they work from the point of view that authoritarian government is proper and necessary but if you have a belief in Liberty you don't believe in enforce and to me the Magnificent thing about a libertarian society is that it should bring ting bring people together and not divide it because not all of us have the same desires I mean just think of it in terms of religion and social habits sexual habits and if people aren't causing harm to anybody else just let everybody pick and choose what they want to do with their life is their lives if they but the whole thing is if they you know if they have money they should be able to spend it the way they want I think they should even be allowed to spend it overseas if I like spend their money their way one if they mess up then they're responsible about why shouldn't liberals and progressives now in Washington I was able to work with a Dennis Kucinich and the Herson say you know we work together because we don't like the wars and we like civil liberties but liberals I mean what about

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liberties but liberals I mean what about religious liberties I'm a in this room there might be a hundred different views on on religious liberty and some have no religion but in Liberty everybody is permitted to do that in economics it should be that way and treat other governments that same way everybody should be clamoring to join us and that's why I'm optimistic on the long run that we some rough spot but I do thank everybody who has joined us and helped us and comes to conferences like this this is encouraging some people thanked me a whole lot but I thank you for the support because if you didn't come I don't know what I'd be doing thank you very much [Applause]

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